



What's Happening at the IJA ?

In This Issue:

Festival Registration Deadline
Circo d'Hiverno
The Case if the Missing Tennis Balls
ByLaw Revision
Archive Team in Las Vegas

Regional Festivals:

RIT Rochester
JAQ Montreal
Isla Vista
Philly

IJA Festival 2008 - Lexington, Kentucky - July 14 - 20

Register by April 1 for the best price

Early Bird: Register by **April 1** and pay only \$159 for an Adult Event Package or \$89 for a Youth-Senior Event Package. (Youth-Senior packages are for ages 11-17 and 65+.)

The **festival brochure**, with complete fest info, is included in the Spring JUGGLE magazine, which should have hit members' mailboxes recently. In case you don't have the magazine, you can find all the fest info on the website and you can even download the 6-page fest brochure from the web.

Full fest information (including online registration, hotel info, a room/ride-sharing forum and more) is available at: <http://www.juggle.org/festival>

Awards Nomination Deadline is March 21st

Submit award nominations to awards@juggle.org

Circo d'Hiverno - A review by Don Lewis

Can you really put on a circus in a pocket theatre where the stage is only 5 meters square? If you are Aytahn Ross, the answer is a resounding Yes! Aytahn has been putting together eclectic evenings of circus for the last six years, drawing in traditional circus, comedy, theatre, and music. It is an intimate setting. The artists are only a few feet away so you really feel the energy of pure performance.

The show had a winter theme so artificial snow was spread around the stage, and from time to time the performers would drop more from the catwalk. Aytahn performed several juggling routines varying from contact juggling to a visually stunning illuminated club swinging routine.

Catherine Viens performed two aerial routines. The first was from a suspended circle, the second was done on a red curtain. No matter how many times you've seen someone roll down a curtain, it is different in such a small space. You are so close that you can see a look of absolute delight on the performer as she drops towards the stage.

Clowning was provided by Mooky Cornish, who also interacted with Aytahn throughout the show. She inveigled a

spectator up on stage and got him to mime a duet with her. It turned into spoken drama which was only possible because she had all his dialog written on various parts of her body and costume. Hilarious.

To change the pace, a jazz duo took the stage for a few well received numbers in the middle of the show. Stephanie Khoury on guitar and Kim Zobic with compelling vocals. At the end of the circus show, there was an intermission and the musicians carried on with a full jazz segment afterwards. An assortment of small children invaded the stage to throw snow but the music never missed a beat and the musicians just smiled. Eventually a parent came and grabbed the kids, What a great way to spend a grey winter's afternoon. And I was lucky to get a ticket to the afternoon show; all the evening performances sold out!

It may not be as overwhelming as a full blown circus, but circus acts in an intimate setting like this are purely magical. Montreal is fortunate to be at the centre of a fusion of circus, dance and musical exploration.

<http://www.circusmontreal.com>

The Case of the Missing Tennis Balls

I got a complaint recently from a green club builder. It seems that he had visited several local tennis clubs to try to harvest used balls. Tennis players regularly discard balls that have worn out, so tennis clubs usually don't mind giving them away instead of throwing them out.

Well, there is more than one way to use a used tennis ball, apparently. Planes that drag huge advertising banners have a problem with the tow ropes wearing out quickly. They string used tennis balls along the rope which extends the life of the rope considerably. If you live near an airport that supports sign towing, you too may have to compete to recycle used tennis balls.

Bylaw Revision - Member Consultation

The Bylaw revision committee has been quietly laboring away to create a modern set of bylaws for the Association. Your input is requested on two items at the moment;

- Initiation Fees
- Voting (including Internet voting)

See the discussion on the open forum, and please let the committee know what you think.

<http://www.juggle.org/forum/read.php?6,13994>

You may comment directly on the forum, or email Kim Laird, committee Chair.

laird@juggle.org

IJA Archives Team in Vegas

by R. W. Bacon

On February 21, 2008, five IJA volunteers convened in Las Vegas for four days of concentrated work on the archives of the International Jugglers' Association.

(Note: Since 2004 the IJA archives collection has been safely stored in a room next to the Las Vegas office of Juggle magazine editor & IJA archives director Alan Howard.)

The goals of the four days:

- (I) Assess the scope, condition, and documentation of the collection.
- (II) Address the most urgent collections-care needs, using museum-standard conservation & storage methods.
- (III) Begin a museum-standard system of accession, cataloging, & organization.
- (IV) Begin digitizing selected objects & photos - both as a preservation measure

and as a first step toward making the collection accessible to IJA members.

(V) Improve collections storage, making materials more easily accessible for future archives volunteers.

Six weeks of preparation included the study of "best practices" in collections care & organization, the coordination of equipment needed for the digitization project, and the purchase of archival-quality supplies. The project was the initiative of IJA board member Sandy Brown.

The volunteers arrived from distant points: Massachusetts (Reg Bacon), Illinois (Steve Rahn), Nebraska (Greg Jizba), Kansas (Sandy Brown), and California (Martin Frost). The photos and captions below detail activities over the next four days.

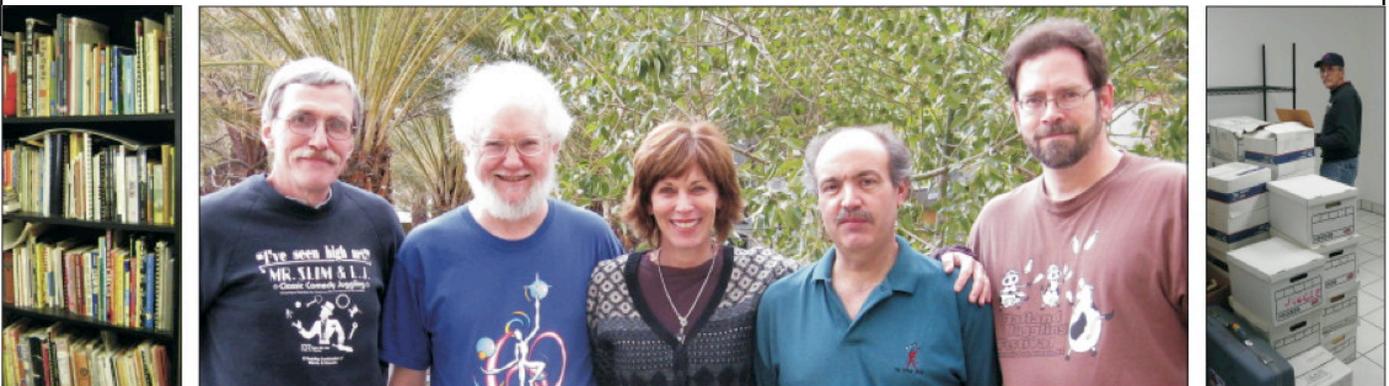
After evaluating progress upon the return home, several future needs/goals were identified, including: the need for a comprehensive collections management

plan; the need for more archival-quality storage for papers, photos, negatives, & film reels;

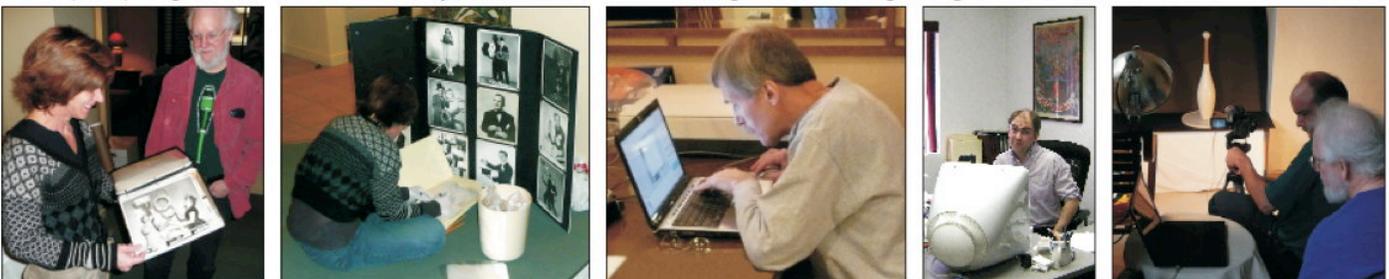
. the goal of compiling collections metadata - to ultimately facilitate the creation of a rich, cross-referenced, member-accessible database of information & digital images.

There are still mountains of work to be done in cataloging, collections care, digitizing, research, and metadata compilation. But the February 21-24, 2008 mission was an excellent beginning. It is clear from just four days of probing the archives that the IJA holds a rich collection of information on the history of juggling and related performing arts. Continued efforts to preserve the collection and make it accessible can only benefit jugglers, the art/craft/sport of juggling, and the IJA organization for generations to come.

See the initial online results of this work at: <http://www.juggle.org/history/archives>



Above left, the IJA archives includes an impressive collection of juggling-related books. Above, center, is the IJA archives team in a rare moment of leisure (l. to r.): **Reg Bacon, Martin Frost, Sandy Brown, Steve Rahn, and Greg Jizba**. Above right, **Reg Bacon** works on a new kind of box routine.



In the photos above (l. to r.) **Sandy Brown & Martin Frost** admire photos in archival sleeves; **Sandy** works on removing photos from acidic backing; **Reg Bacon** captures high-resolution scans; **Alan Howard** researches provenance; and **Martin Frost & Steve Rahn** work on their digital photography.



Above (l. to r.) are **Steve Rahn** amidst the "before" jumble; **the team** taking its one brief juggling break the night before departure; **Martin Frost & Lee Bittenbender** assembling metal shelving; and **Martin** after the collection was placed on the new shelving units. (Photos by Steve Rahn & Greg Jizba)



The Campus of RIT
Questions email ritjuggle@gmail.com
Site info: <http://www.rit.edu/~jugwww/>
Club info: <http://www.ritjuggling.org>

Other Upcoming Festivals:**JAQ Montréal Festival**

May 2,3,4 2008

<http://www.jaq.qc.ca>**Isla Vista Juggler's Festival**

May 2-4, 2008

UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara,
California<http://www.sbjuggle.org>**Philly Fest****October 4, 5 2008***One Week Earlier than Usual!***Don't Get Caught Unprotected!****IJA Group Liability Insurance: only \$150/year**

It's that time of year when many other insurance policies are coming up for renewal. Other IJA members still don't have any kind of protection!

Take this opportunity to get insured.

HRH is providing IJA members and affiliate clubs with jugglers' liability insurance and fest coverage. Insurance...It's not just for performers anymore.

For more information about the IJA insurance policy go to...
<http://www.juggle.org/insurance.php>

For the policy application go directly to...
<http://einsurance.hrh.com> then click on JUGGLERS

OR

Call Dale Whittick, Jr. at 610-260-4342 or 1-800-HRH-4700